

Custer County Republican

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BROKEN BOW, NEBRASKA

Pele blew the bottom out of the Nicaraguan canal.

It's the sugar in Cuba's cup that makes it bitter, too!

A smile may hide a man's thoughts, just as paint may hide a woman's complexion.

New York doctors who do business in fashionable circles are getting ready for an epidemic of perityphlitis.

Most people would regard their education as complete if they could understand an art criticism after they have read it.

J. Pierpont Morgan's grandfather was the author of a poem beginning: "An old red hen with yellow legs, She laid her master many eggs." The poet's grandson gathers them in.

Optimistic people are inclined to believe that there is no more jury bribing, police bribing and councilman bribing than ever, but that more of the bribers are being caught. Success to the catchers.

That man and woman, aged 77 and 75 respectively, who were forced to elope for the purpose of getting married, may well say: "And, oh, Lord, save us from the wrath of our children and our children's children."

Perhaps we are coming to railways without rails. Several automobile owners in New York are planning to construct on Long Island fifty miles of road, to cross other roads above or below grade, so that they may have a free course on which to speed their machines. From running a single motor car on such a road to attaching one or more "trailers" is a short step, and the next leads to passenger and freight service. Even if special roads are not built for their accommodation, it is probable that automobile coach lines will be run as feeders to the steam or electric lines in districts where it would not pay to lay a track.

Three people were drowned the other day in Michigan, because one of the rowing party could not restrain his playfulness to the extent of refraining from rocking the boat. Every summer, besides the number of drowning accidents that human power is unable to avert, are those that owe their tragedy to foolhardiness of some trifler. There is no way of preventing such casualties, as a mental examination is not required of persons who hire rowboats, and oarsmen are never questioned as to whether in their opinion the same ideals of playfulness ought to prevail upon both water and land. It would be well, however, if some certificate of sane conduct were required of doubtful looking members of rowing parties, or some arrangement made whereby the man with a propensity for rocking himself in the cradle of the deep might, when the rocking reached the spilling point, upset only his own playful self.

Ministers seem to be waking up to the necessity of self-improvement. Not long ago the Congregationalist suggested that ministers take a Sunday off now and then to listen to their fellow preachers and profit thereby. Now Rev. Robert Zaring, pastor of one of the Methodist churches in Indianapolis, urges that there be inspectors of sermons as there are meat and milk inspectors. If Mr. Zaring's proposition should be carried out the inspectors would doubtless find many "embalmed" sermons which long ago had their day and well merit decent burial. They would also discover many a bacillus of heresy that should be exterminated before the contagion has spread to the congregation and through that to the world at large. They would advise the preacher to leave his study, and even his closet, to come in contact with life as it is to-day and not as it was two centuries ago. They would organize institutes and summer schools for ministers that they may advance beyond the limit reached years ago at theological seminaries. Teachers are forced by frequent inspection and frequent examinations to progress beyond the attainments made in college and normal schools. The requirements made of the minister should be no less than those made of other educators. Mr. Zaring's proposition provoked a smile when it was first offered, but there is sound common sense at the bottom of it and preachers will do well to take the hint.

For years the weight of medical authority has been against the smoking habit. The habitue of the cigar store has read with many misgivings the deliverances of the medical experts respecting the effect of nicotine on the nervous system. At times he has been frightened to the verge of delirium tremens by the certain pronouncement that smoking is the cause of cancer. About the only voice that has been raised in favor of tobacco-using is the occasional mild suggestion from some physician who has urged that it promotes digestion. Now comes Dr. Dumon, an eminent London authority, who has made a special study of the action of tobacco smoke upon the various organisms found in the cavity of the mouth. Dr. Dumon finds that while tobacco smoke has no effect upon typhoid fever germs or tetanus (lock jaw) it greatly retards the growth of the bacilli of influenza, of diphtheria, and of consumption. It may be said that few

smokers actively engaged in the pursuit are troubled either with typhoid fever or lockjaw. Lockjaw would materially interfere with the enjoyment of a cigar or a pipe. And as to typhoid fever the victim is like the character of Bret Harte, concerning whom it was said, "The subsequent proceedings interested him no more." As to influenza, diphtheria, and consumption, however, the case is different. Every smoker put to it for defense of My Lady Nicotine will testify that he has had at divers and sundry times touches of one if not all of these diseases. These germs must be smoked out and destroyed. What more natural method than the one so universally employed?

America does not do things by halves. Every day she smashes some old-world theory. Take our universities, for instance. The Ivy of years clings to the sacred walls of Oxford and Cambridge. Heidelberg is honored by generations of learning. But there are institutions of higher learning in this country that are scarcely out of their swaddling clothes as far as years is concerned, and yet they are recognized the world over as unexcelled, some that are looked upon as premier in certain specialties. And there are fresh-water universities in the newer cities of the United States whose progress is little less than amazing. Money can do a great deal, even in learning. The story of the University of Chicago is an emphatic example. From the financial point of view it takes on an aspect of a favorable deal successfully promoted. But while one multimillionaire has given \$11,000,000 for its upbuilding, other friends have gone down into their pockets for \$5,000,000, and their share alone would have been sufficient for an excellent start. Still, it is when the results are considered that the enterprise grows in interest. Its history runs back scarcely a decade, and yet the enrollment during the past year, according to the figures announced at the convocation, was 4,530, or a total of almost 3,000 different students. Considering that post-graduate work receives the greater share of the attention, the figures assume even greater import. The building of an institution of such magnitude in this short time, while maintaining a standard recognized the world over, is only another example of the American way of "doing things" that has so frequently astounded the slower-going Europeans.

In Paterson, N. J., a while ago, a weaver made application for more wages. It was refused. He went to his home and there he and his wife hanged themselves, and were later found dead by the neighbors. A rich contractor in New York drank poison and died. The weaver and his wife were not paupers. They had a fair living. At no time had they been in want. If they were despondent their friends did not know it. The contractor, who represented the other end of the social scale, had health, money and no entanglements that those close to him could discover. Then why did they kill themselves? The human mind is to-day almost as much of a mystery as it was in the beginning. Life has not to all the same value it has to you. It is possible for a human being to become tired of existence, even though surrounded by luxuries. It is possible for the poor man to feel that the game is not worth the candle, even though his poverty is no more distressing than usual. The human being who is not resourceful, who cannot find in his own breast the inspiration that makes life sweet and adds interest to the daily round of work or pleasure, often finds existence monotonous. That road leads to suicide and a newspaper story that generally closes with these words: "No reason is known for the act." There is a remedy. It isn't found in the medical works, and few doctors prescribe it. Stop thinking about yourself. A cripple dragged himself along the pavement and dropped a coin into the blind beggar's hat. "I'm glad I'm not in the shape that fellow is," he said. There is the idea. There is always somebody worse off. Don't play the martyr. Don't imagine that Fate is dogging your footsteps. Be of use. The useful human being doesn't know the meaning of monotony. If you cannot distribute money, share kind words with those who need them. Be interested, and leave death to the old man with the scythe. The weaver and the weaver's wife and the contractor were selfish when they destroyed themselves. They wasted happiness that could have been theirs for the asking. They looked at a grave when they might have witnessed the glory of the sun.

Old-Time Education.

Now that there is so much talk about education it is interesting to look back and see what a seventeenth century moralist had to say about the teaching of children.

"We are in Pain to make them Scholars, but not Men!" he wrote. "To talk, rather than to know, which is the Canting. The first Thing obvious to Children is what is sensible; and that we make no Part of their Rudiments."

But what is of most significance to us is the same writer's appeal for technical education.

"We press their Memory too soon, and puzzle, strain and load them with Words and Rules; to know Grammar and Rhetoric and a strange Tongue or two, that it is ten to one may never be useful to them; Leaving their natural Genius to Mechanical and Physical or Natural knowledge uncultivated and neglected; which would be of exceeding Use and Pleasure to them through the whole Course of their Life."

After all, says the London Chronicle, it is the reformer rather than the historian who is forced to use vain repetition.

Science AND INVENTION

An English physiologist explains that a girl can never throw like a boy because her collar-bone is larger and sets lower.

Meteors which reach the earth almost invariably contain a large quantity of iron and a smaller amount of nickel.

The worst mosquito-infested neighborhood in the world is the coast of Borneo. At certain seasons, it is said, the streams of that region are unnavigable because of the clouds of mosquitoes.

A peculiar snow observed on Mont Malet in the Alps has been reported by M. A. Brun. It is called "Caucasian snow," and is very porous, with grains reaching an eighth of an inch in size. The slight adhesion of these grains gives great liability to avalanches.

Attempts have been made to measure the light of the moonless night sky. Gavin J. Burns, an English astronomer, has roughly estimated that the total light of one hemisphere equals that of one thousand first-magnitude stars, and Professor Simon Newcomb has—perhaps more accurately—found this total light to be equal to that of six hundred to eight hundred first-magnitude stars. The brightness seems to be not entirely due to visible and invisible stars. The zodiacal light and the gegenschein, a midnight glow opposite the sun, have been seen to extend across the heavens, and it is suggested that these are but intensifications of a general luminosity of the entire sky, due to some unknown cause.

Wonderful stories are often told of the powers of vision possessed by savage races. During the recent Cambridge anthropological expedition to Torres Straits, the visual acuity of the natives was carefully tested, and Mr. Rivers, who made the tests, concluded that the excellence of vision shown by savages has a psychological origin; that is to say, it arises from knowing what to look for. When the European acquires familiarity with the environment he can see as far as they can. Thus the power of an Indian to tell the sex of a deer at such a distance that distinguished features like antlers were invisible was found to rest upon his knowledge of the peculiar gait of the male deer.

Professor A. E. Verrill of Yale regards the phenomena witnessed during the awful eruption of Mount Pelee in May as bearing out the theory that immense quantities of explosive gases were evolved through the dissociation of oxygen and hydrogen from the water on coming suddenly into contact with hot lava, and that these gases, when ejected into the atmosphere, exploded above the crater, producing the terrible effects that were noted. According to this view, the inhabitants of St. Pierre were killed by a sudden explosion of a vast volume of mingled oxygen and hydrogen, while the poisonous hydrochloric acid gas, formed by the chlorine liberated from the seawater that had leaked into the volcano and was combined with some of the hydrogen, quickly suffocated those who may have escaped death from the explosion.

THEFT OF LIBERTY BELL

Successful April Fool Joke Worked by New Orleans Paper.

"Did you ever hear about the time the Liberty Bell was stolen?" asked a New Orleans man at the Capitol the other day. "It was early in the spring of 1885. The exposition was being held at New Orleans and the bell had been loaned to the exposition. I remember well the excitement the theft occasioned. The Times-Democrat came out the next morning with startling headlines, 'A Dastardly Attempt,' 'The Emblem of American Independence, the Liberty Bell, Stolen.'"

"Last night was a sorrowful one in the city," it said. "When Philadelphia sent to New Orleans the grand old Liberty Bell, treasured not alone by the famed city of the East, but by the whole nation, as the precious emblem of national liberty, the people of the South generally, and of Louisiana particularly, responded warmly to this evidence of brotherly love offered by the second city of the republic."

"A long account of the reception of the bell and the care taken of it followed, and the Times-Democrat said: 'The spot on which it stood is a scene of havoc. The car that bore it is half consumed by fire and its ruined timbers tell a story of wanton destruction almost without parallel. The trees that stood over it are no longer graceful and grand; half devoured by fire, their charred branches seem to cry aloud for vengeance. Last night when the pale moon shed her radiance over the great park, bathing it in a flood of silver light, when the grounds were calm and still and deserted by all save the watchful guard, this deed of wantonness was done.'"

"Then came an account of the mounting of the guard and the discovery of the fire. The account said: 'While the firemen and the two officers were discussing the mysterious disappearance of the two night watchmen an officer made his way close to the car to inspect the bell and ascertain whether or not it had sustained any damage. To his amazement the bell was gone. Not a vestige of it remained. It had been wrung from its fastenings and carried off.'"

"There was more detail about the search and clew. Naturally the citizens and the thousands of visitors at the exposition were indignant. The

entire population discussed nothing else that morning and the cars were not sufficient to carry the crowd out to the grounds to see the ruin wrought and learn the latest clew. I could not get a car and walked a distance of four miles and was an hour getting through the gate.

"The next issue of the Times-Democrat said: 'Everybody takes a joke good naturally on the first day of April, and there was occasion yesterday for the exercise of a good deal of good nature. Everybody tried to fool everybody else. The Times-Democrat Liberty Bell joke went down very well, and those who forgot the date of the paper and went into a state of agitation over the irreparable injury that they imagined had been done to the famous old relic so kindly loaned to New Orleans by the City of Brotherly Love were full of laughter and surprise when they found themselves the victims of a hoax. The bell was visited by a large number of visitors during the day and the officers on guard had no difficulty in convincing spectators that nothing was wrong with it.'"

STUDENT LIFE AT OXFORD.

What Young Americans Who Go There Will Find.

In undergraduate life at Oxford the student from America will find many interesting features. He will, no doubt, be assigned to a college rather than be allowed to choose one, as the will of Cecil Rhodes expresses the desire "that the scholars holding the scholarships shall be distributed among the colleges of the University of Oxford, and not resort in undue numbers to one or more colleges only."

There are twenty-two colleges in the university, all of which, educationally considered, are equal. Reasons of rank in life, of parental or local associations, of wealth, of religious tendencies, rather than reasons of a purely academic nature, lead an English boy to choose one or another of these colleges.

The colleges differ in externals. Some of them are rich, others poor; some of them are comparatively large—three or four hundred students—others very small; some are expensively carried on, others inexpensively; some are "pass," others are "reading" colleges; some have high residence fees, others low; some have no graduate students, and one, All Souls, no undergraduate students; some have superb buildings, others plainer; and one, the Non-Collegiate, has no building at all, and hardly any faculty, being governed by the university through a committee called a "delegation for unattached students."

But any one of these colleges will be a worthy foster mother to the undergraduate. The student will pay his fees to his college, and will be watched over by it throughout his whole course. He will not get all of his instruction in his lecture rooms, for the community of interest idea has penetrated modern Oxford, and for certain subjects the resident student will be apt to go to another college, but his student life will be mainly within the college walls.

He will, if fortunate enough to get one, have a room on one of the "staircases," will be served by the "scout," who will bring him his breakfast, will dine in state in the hall every evening, will worship in the college chapel, and will shorten his walks abroad so that he can get within the college gates before they close for the night. He will row in the college boat or play on the college cricket team, and will have a special adviser, a college tutor, to whom he will look back with gratitude and respect all the days of his life.

He will find Oxford as expensive as Harvard or Yale. His strictly college expenses, for tuition, board and daily living, exclusive of books, clothing, societies, sports and luxuries, will vary from a minimum of \$500 a year to a maximum difficult to estimate. Of the colleges, Keble, Jesus, New College and Worcester make special effort to aid the student in economy; Christ Church, University, Magdalen and Balliol are the most expensive; Brasenose, St. John's, Exeter, Oriel and Trinity stand in an intermediate position.

The student will have to be fairly economical at the average college, says Francis Hovey Stoddard in the Review of Reviews, to keep his total expenses within the \$1,500 yearly suggested in the will as the income for each scholarship.

Last of the Indian Dances.

The Omaha is the only dance now practiced among the Sioux. The war dance died with the accession of peace, and the sun dance has long been frowned upon by the Great Father and the ghost dance has been peremptorily forbidden ever since the trouble springing from it in that unhappy fight at Wounded Knee in the early winter of 1891. But the Omaha, danced frequently upon the reservation, has not been actually forbidden, although the Indian agents in general disapprove of it, and so far as is possible discountenance its perpetuation. It is primarily a social function, with this unqualified advantage—that it tends toward the continuance of that state of society known to the Indians during their days of barbarity, that it emphasizes uncivilized delights and that it has nothing in common with the civilization toward which we are trying to lead the red man. Every time the Omaha is danced the dancers are drawn more closely to the old lives and the old ways, a reverence for the customs of their ancestors is enkindled within them, and whatever refining influences of civilization may have hitherto impressed them are, for the time, utterly forgotten and eventually much weakened. It is the great social reflection of barbarism, and its influence cannot be for good.—Chicago Chronicle.

We have noticed that prices always go up rapidly and decline very slowly.

GOOD Short Stories

The Pioneer tells a story of a rat which on one occasion was caught alive on a ship and thrown overboard. A seagull was floating by the side of the ship. Immediately there ensued a battle royal, and the rat strangled the seagull to death. He then sat upon the carcass of the seagull, unfurled its left wing to catch the wind, and, working the right wing as an oar, set sail for the shore!

In response to a missionary's appeals for various articles for use on an African farm, a milking-stool was sent to him from England. He gave it to the negro whose duty it was to milk the cows, with injunctions to use it. On the first day the negro returned home from the cow-sheds, bruised and battered, but with an empty pail. When the missionary asked for an explanation, the negro replied: "Milk stool very nice, massa, but she won't sit on it!"

In 1802 Colonel Alexander, of Topeka, who was an intimate friend of President Lincoln, visited him at Washington, and found him in a greatly depressed state of mind. "This being President isn't all it is cracked up to be, is it, Mr. Lincoln?" inquired Colonel Alexander. "No," said Lincoln, his eyes twinkling momentarily; "I feel sometimes like the Irishman, who, after being ridden on a rail, said: 'Begorry, if it wasn't for the honor av th' thing, I'd rather walk!'"

An incident of the ceremonies at the unveiling of the Rochambeau statue in Washington, D. C., went far to prove that the American flag "stays put." When the Countess Rochambeau pulled the balyard which caused the flags draping the statue to drop, every vestige of the covering fell but one corner of the American flag, which persistently clung to a part of the work surrounding the statue. "The flag stays put," remarked Secretary Hay to the President in an undertone, and the President, remembering his words, smiled broadly. The French flag readily gave way the moment the rope was pulled, and there were a number of spectators who were inclined to take the incident as an omen.

Captain French E. Chadwick, U. S. N., who was commander of the flagship New York during the war with Spain, says that Rear Admiral Sampson was deeply and unaffectedly religious, and adds: "He was a strict observer of Sunday, but the fact that once, at least, he forgot the days of the week is indicative of the intensity with which the duty in hand always seized him. Having called the captains aboard for consultation on the 4th of June (a Saturday) he said toward the close of the conference: 'I am going in to-morrow to attack the batteries, so have everything ready by daylight.' Captain Philip, who was most earnest in his religious convictions, at once spoke up: 'But, admiral, to-morrow is Sunday, and I don't believe in fighting on Sunday, unless the other fellow begins. I have always noticed that whoever begins a Sunday fight gets licked.' Sampson at once said: 'I am glad you mentioned that, Jack; to tell the truth, I had forgotten the days of the week. I am no more a believer in fighting on Sunday than you are. Gentlemen, we'll put it off until Monday,' and his order was obeyed."

THE SURVIVAL OF A CHAIR.

At the time we left Roraima she was afire from her stem to the aft engine-room bulkhead. As we looked back we saw a strange thing. A common reed chair, such as you often see on the deck of a transatlantic liner, was hanging in the air to the ship's stern. It had been fastened to the after flag and braced below so that it hung off in space just beyond the reach of the flames. Some poor devil had rigged it there and sat in it to save himself from fire, afraid to jump on account of the fierce rush of the volcanic currents below. We could see him there, sitting in his chair, long before we left the ship, at the back of the solid wall of fire which divided us from him, and he must have suffered terribly before he dropped from his perch and went overboard. We could not get at him on account of the fire in the forward part of the saloon, but a stateroom was at hand close by, with plenty of life-boats, and he might have got one and put it on; but strangely enough, after all that fire there hung the empty chair literally intact. The next morning the chair still hung there unharmed.—Chief Officer Scott's account of the loss of the Roraima in Martinique harbor, in Leslie's Monthly.

Make Paint of Mummies.

Manufacturers of artists' colors now often use mummies in making their colors, and it is almost certain that a small percentage of some ancient Egyptian rulers went to compose some of the colors used by various R. A.'s in painting their portraits for this year's academy. Mummies were usually preserved in bitumen or the best pitch, says the London Tatler. This blended with the bone of the mummy gives a peculiarly beautiful tint, especially in brown or dark blue.

Wisdom in Eclipse.

Joe—You don't seem afraid to talk with the sweet girl graduate.

Dick—No; those girls are all so pleased with their new frocks that they won't mention books.

Street Etiquette.

In meeting a lady in a public thoroughfare in America a gentleman always waits for her bow of recognition before lifting his hat or addressing her. In Europe, however, the contrary is the established rule, it being the gentleman's place to bow first, when, if the lady desires not to recognize him, she ignores his salutations, thus giving the cut direct. It is not good form in any place for a lady to stop a gentleman in the street for the purpose of chatting with him, though she may with perfect propriety pause to speak if he take the initiative. Prolonged talks in the street are not, however, considered good form, even between persons of the same sex, the better plan being to walk on slowly until the conversation is concluded.

Whatever you do, don't forget Mrs. Austin's.

Paris Population.

Paris, according to the latest census returns, has a population of 2,650,000 persons, of whom 1,200,000 are either foreigners or provincials.

Whatever you do, don't forget Mrs. Austin's.

Lava Village on Mt. Aetna.

On the west side of Mount Aetna there are several villages in the midst of former lava streams, and with all the houses built of lava.

Whatever you do, don't forget Mrs. Austin's.

London to Shanghai.

The mail from London to Shanghai, which now is on the way 33 to 36 days, will require only 16 days via the Siberian railway.

Whatever you do, don't forget Mrs. Austin's.

The fleas of Peru are exasperatingly annoying and insatiable. It is customary in that country for a group of human beings to have a lamb near them, to attract the fleas from themselves.

Whatever you do, don't forget Mrs. Austin's.

Marconi's Sense of Humor.

Mr. Marconi, unlike many of his scientific brethren, has a sense of humor, says the London Express. He said that wireless telegraphy was as old as the world. When first an aboriginal Indian lit a fire on an aboriginal Indian some miles away then the principle of wireless telegraphy was initiated. In a recent lecture Mr. Marconi, referring to the fact that he can send messages so much more easily by night than by day, said that he hoped no one but those interested in cable companies would class his labors among the works of darkness.

Whatever you do, don't forget Mrs. Austin's.

The best times of the year for felling timber, in the opinion of lumbermen, are midwinter and midsummer.

Use the famous Red Cross Ball Blue. Large 2-oz. package 5 cents. The Russ Company, South Bend, Ind.

An ostrich never goes straight to its nest, but always approaches it with many windings and detours, in order, if possible, to conceal the locality from observation.

Don't forget a large 2-oz. package Red Cross Ball Blue only 5 cents. The Russ Company, South Bend, Ind.

To be able to use the tongue fluently is undoubtedly a great advantage in many cases; but the power to keep silent is equally advantageous.

HALL'S CATARRH CURE

is taken internally. Price 75 cents.

Mrs. Winslow's SOOTHING SYRUP for children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, the whooping cough.

Created A Volcano

As a sequel to the recent earthquakes in Sardina an enormous chasm has been peened in the earth, while the surface has bulged into a hill of considerable elevation, from which stones and masses of earth are projected. There are also symptoms that the interior of the hill is in an ebullient condition. Scientists incline to the belief that the phenomena observed are volcanic. Another consequence of the earthquake is that Lake Santo, near Modena, which was about 500 yards long and 100 wide has completely disappeared.

The efforts of the German cement syndicate to control the production and to regulate the prices of cement have failed, and the syndicate has been dissolved.

The jaw of the shark furnishes the best watchmakers' oil. In each shark is found about half a pint.

Atmosphere Taquitois

By a French chemist is claimed the invention of a method of compressing sea air into taquitois. Those, therefore, who wish for a change of air will in future only have to go to the nearest chemist and buy a bottle of Marqate taquitois or half a dozen Riviera pastilles. So long as the drugs are properly dispensed the invention will be welcome. It would be unpleasant to ask for Bournemouth pastilles and to receive instead the Cologne (not the eau de Cologne) variety. The latter form has 79 distinct smells.

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